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he OMEN

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Volume 24, issue 3 March 4, 2005 layout & editing

Aaron Buchsbaum	Asshole
Jesse Frola	Assface
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THE OFFICIAL OMEN HAIKU:

Front Cover by Aaron Buchsbaum

Views in the Omen

Do not necessarily

Reflect the staff's views (5)



Submissions are due Saturdays before 5 p.m. You can submit in rich text or plain text format by diskette (Mac or IBM), and typed hard copies will also be accepted, reluctantly. Label your disks well and they will get back to you. Get your stuff to Abby Ohlheiser, Merrill C202, x4566. You may also use e-mail. Send e-mail submissions to awo03@hampshire.edu

And be sure to read our policy box at the bottom of the next page before submitting.

Visit the Omen's spankin' new website! omen.hampshire.edu

> Are you calling me a guy? - No, I'm just saying you like the ox-cock

- Well, that's true.

Abby Ohlheiser and Aaron Buchsbaum, on Plato

THE INTRANET IS FOR PORN

Seasier to navigate.

[insert name and extension here] for more infor- is useless. mation." It is a slightly expanded, more interaccommittees, and no humor.

bunch of information with accompanying docu-fix. ments in one location. Of course, you have to the Hampshire website is only easy if you know all-campus email. I was impressed with the correct phrase to put before .hampshire.edu. what I saw, but I wish I had known about The search engine is rarely helpful.

What is happening with reorganization doesn't work because nobody uses it.

o figure - governance.hampshire.edu is on the Hampshire intranet is great. The bars at the pretty goddamn useful. I "found it" off of top can pretty much direct you to where you want a link from an email about the reorganito go... if you know what office covers the informazation of orientation and the enhanced tutorials. tion you need. It would be a successful website if remembered trying to find all this information internet users were not, by nature, stupid and lazy. on the Hampshire website some time in my first If you move things around you need to spell it out. year. It was there, but I had to dig. The pdf "Look at what a good job we did!" is useless unless download of Non Satis Non Scire ended up being it's accompanied by "and here's how you use our new, scary, system." It could be as simple as an It seems as if the Hampshire intranet has alert to the general restructuring and organization tried to become more informative - the various of the information. There are a couple easy ways committees on the governance website now list to navigate the intranet but most people seem to be application procedures as opposed to "contact" unaware of them, and generally think that the intranet

Then again, it's not surprising. The noble tive version of the NSNS pdf: All the information attempt at a successful Hampshire message board plus a handy organizational chart! If you've seen has not yet worked. I still check the jolt for informa-Tom Doherty's chart, think cleaner lines, more tion. If we were a smart group of people, we would use the Hampshire intranet ride board in the forum. I don't know how long It's secure - the Jolt ride board puts your contact governance.hampshire.edu has been up. Most information in the open internet. You can get that people I asked about it either still don't know information through Google. The Hampshire meswhat it is or remember the link in the orientation sage board also provides a connection to Hampshire email from last week. I know that most of the staff: ask a question and a staff member or involved information on the website has been available student can give you an answer. Unfortunately, if on the intranet for awhile, though rather hard nobody asks questions, fewer people will check to to track down. Governance provides a whole give answers. It's a vicious cycle that only time might

This editorial, in summary: I discovered a find that location first. It seems as if navigating new part of the intranet through a loosely-related it much earlier. Also, the message board



The Omen is Hampshire's longest-running bi-weekly publication, established by Stephanie Cole in December of 1992. In the past, submissions have included students' perspectives on the campus, administration, news, movie reviews, commentary, short fiction, satire, first born, artwork, comics, and the occasional embarrassing self-promotion. Everything the *Omen* receives, provided it is sent from a member of the Hampshire for countless hours, it is just not an option or dead, should come. in this forum. Libel will be considered clearly false or unsupportable writing that maliciously damages a person's reputation.

The Omen will not edit anything you write

(except spelling and grammar). You must sign your real name (no anonymous submissions) and understand that you are responsible for what you say. Nonetheless, views in the Omen do not necessarily represent the views of anyone.

anywhere, living or dead.
There is no Omen staff, save those positions of editor-in-chief and layout editor. To qualify for community service you must be a consistent contributor and help regularly with layout. Layout times (and community, will be published unless it is deemed libelous or defamatory. Although we find such things amusing and entertaining in the Kiva at 9PM. Everyone, everywhere, living

The Omen loves you.



News, Commentary, Announcements, Propaganda, Editorials.

NON SATIS SCIRE, OR SOMETHING

(A DIV III RANT)

young people in the audience: to the political debate over abor-"if you don't turn on to politics, tion. Gay rights groups are strugpolitics will turn on you." I arrived gling to settle on a new political politically active campus today national committee. than it was when I started here. In fact, most of you have already in the open, and not just among turned the page to read the latest political elites: pragmatic, proinstallment of barely-coherent found conversations about how Some of you are still focused on happening everywhere, from my simplistic and problematic cyberspace to coffee shops. Viruse of categories such as "poli-tually everyone I know at Hamptics" and "us", a practice which is shire has at least some interest bound up in systems of hierarchy in the political groups mentioned sarcastic, folks.)

the radical right.

happening. Environmentalists in decades. are abuzz over a speech by the former president of the Sierra Club proclaiming the death of their movement. Feminists are

alph Nader had a scolding arguing passionately about a applause line in the 2000 recent essay calling for a radicampaign, aimed at any cally different rhetorical approach at Hampshire in the Fall of 2001, and legal strategy in the wake of just before 9/11, anxious to take the anti-gay marriage backlash. up his call. A funny thing has Labor unions are considering happened in the intervening huge structural changes in an period. Politics turned on us in attempt to become relevant any number of major ways (from again. Even the Democratic cutting Pell Grants to the war in Party, in a political tailspin, just Iraq) -- and we're either yawn- chose Howard Dean, who was ing or gazing at our navels. If something of a national joke anything, Hampshire is a less this time a year ago, to chair its

All of this is happening out drivel about reality television. to build a new American left are and social privilege. (That was above. And the conservative movement, having seized con-It could be because I'm a trol of the federal government reclusive Div III just returned and bullied the press into subfrom field study, but I'm not mission, is now turning its fire even witnessing any extended to academia, which means we serious conversations about have a vested self-interest in our role in shaping the political fighting back. But we're still future of a nation which is now not engaging in the realities of almost completely controlled by national politics, preferring to fight the same provincial battles It's possible this is the only and continue the same irrelevant progressive institution in America conversations using an academic where those conversations aren't vocabulary that hasn't changed

Hampshire aims to "graduate men and women with the skills and perspectives needed for

continued on next page

AND YOU THOUGHT THERE WERE ONLY 9 LEVELS

OF HELL: POLITICS AT HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE

a poster caught my eye.

> Culture ... "

Considering the fact that my let? Well... wildest dream is to grow up to I like the crazy mystery ellipses, I decided to keep reading.

two women having mad passion- the bottom: ate sex>

jewelry. But that clerk was look- and more political." ing a little too happy for handing a bracelet to the girl. She's just hoping their hands will touch, and HOT.

Poster sez: "Is this getting boring...Try Collective Action Instead!"

random capitalization and gram- turn into a hateful mindless mob mar errors, someone obviously

continued from previous

understanding and participating responsibly in a complex world. We're very good at the perspectives and the understanding. It's a shame we can't seem to get serious about the skills and the participation.

(For my fellow computer nerds, I've posted this as an weblog entry at http: //redallover.org/. Com-

ments, including criticism, are more than welcome.)

ing all around campus and lish. And there's our friend the being such a "Nazi". freezing my ass off when ellipses again. Oh and, what's Obedient member of Consumer clerk hitting on some unaware

become a consumer whore and what they meant...their poster enthusiasm about issues longer was boring! I sort of made up my own words for the rest of it Poster sez: <Insert picture of until I noticed in little writing near ally keep focused long enough

Okay, so they weren't having committed group come and help sex. One was showing the other us make our community closer

Whoa, whoa, whoa

Because if anything, Hampshire is obviously not political. they'll look into each others eyes We're just a bastion of apathy and...Wow, this poster's getting despite our well thought-out political opinions. In fact, I was match. simply horrified when I got here that no one stood for making loud outlandish statements with Well, with the constant no backing. Or that people didn't of sheep whenever someone shouted a contrary opinion.

> open and genius. I find it hilariunrelated propaganda when we ism. should be concentrating on our studies. It's a blast picking on the republican kids on campus and calling them "fascists" because it's not like we live in a society of free speech or anything. Or maybe we can concentrate on the fact that so many people feel the need to be super politically Hampshire bubble. correct and then paint swastikas on bathroom mirrors, because

o, I was busy today, walk- never passed high school Eng- gosh darn it, "the man" is really

Well, if anything I commend getting boring? Buying stuff? them on their dedication, since Poster sez: "HEY YOU! That's fun! A horny jewelry store they're a "committed group" and we all know how committed but curious girl buying a brace- Hampshire students are to political issues. So obviously, we can Then I finally figured out expect them to have opinions and than the week they chose to rant about it. Maybe they might actuso that they don't forget to actu-Poster sez: "We are a small ally come to a resolution on said issues?

> But I don't mean to pick to just pick on this activist group. I hope they'll be very productive. But if the campus is to become more political it needs involvement from BOTH sides, not just another outlet for a liberal pissing

I'm not saying the conservatives on campus are saints or martyrs. You guys could be making some steps yourself for some co-existence, like for example, finding interesting, smart conservatives to come to The politics here are so campus rather than just some guy who's convinced the Lord of ous when my teachers spout the Rings is symbolic for capital-

> Hampshire needs to more political? Fine. Hampshire needs a better grasp of what politics are first though, since the people around you are not always going to be rich people who agree with every word you say. It's time to get over ourselves and pop the



FROM POLITICALLY CONFUSED STUDENT TO WELL-MEANING PROFESSOR

ational Decisions Professor,

I thought it would be right that I inform you of my situation while requesting an incomplete for this semester, since it was in part your guidance that which led me to this outcome.

I have been concentrating on using rationality more in my everyday life.

I also try to help others in this by pointing out that most of the things they believe are stupid and illogical, as was explained in our text *Rational Choice in an Uncertain World*. All of the decisions leading up to my present state have followed the four criteria of rational choice:

- 1. Based on the decision maker's current assets.
- 2. Based on possible consequences of the choice.
- 3. When consequences are uncertain, based on rules of probability.
- 4. Choice is adaptive based on constraints of probabilities and values associated with each possible consequence resulting from choice.

I have gone ahead and included a demonstration of the decision tree complete with a subjective Social Utility value, which weighs each outcome as it relates to the Common Good. It is too bad that most people haven't evolved as much as we have (as evident in their not thinking the same as us), and I cheer their demise as a benefit to the Common Good. "Creatures inadvertently wrong in their inductions have a pathetic but praiseworthy tendency to die before reproducing their kind."-Orman

When will the Red States learn this? It is totally so true, even if they maintain that it is just another theory and won't let people force public school kids to repeat it as fact.

Note: I calculated all the probabilities (0.50) using statistical data from only non-biased sources like the ACLU, Amnesty International and Planned Parenthood.

What I have found is that while most people are too simple to grasp the logic of my new outlook, Republicans are especially apt to root against the Common Good. In particular they question my Altruism that guides me in deciding what is and is not for the Common Good. And here is where my problem lies. I am a prisoner of simpletons who do not yet grasp our new way of life, and seek instead to postpone the inevitability of it by holding me here. (Most people also think that the Underground

Railroad was run by a bunch of Puritans when in fact everyone who ever helped end slavery was a homosexual Atheist working for Communism. The religious Right tries to take full credit for everything!) After I made the logical decision to arise for Social Justice, I came to the conclusion that my having the use of a vehicle was for the Common Good, as it would allow me to travel to those "Red States" where the greatest need is in furthering our cause. The vehicle that which would afford me the greatest utility was calculated to be the PVTA bus that which I was riding on at the time when I had completed my decision tree. When the driver stepped out to check the tires. I liberated the bus for the Common Good. Not long after this. I noticed that my passengers became more interested in making War than Love (I learned in another course that love is just a social construct anyhow.) Soon, some passengers stopped the bus and wrestled me to the floor. In retrospect, I believe I made an error in my calculation of the probability that I would be oppressed by the Right. Apparently my Representative Heuristic led me to think my fellow passengers were not Right Wing nut-jobs, which they obviously were. Originally, I had figured it was me vs. the bus driver, hence the 0.50 probability of successfully Nationalizing the bus. The probability was in fact more like 0.10 that I would succeed in Social Justice, since there was one bus driver plus 8 angry passengers (Total=9) against myself (1 in 10).

I have tried to explain to my captors (the KGB-like Amherst PD) that Nationalizing the bus was the

Most people also think that the Underground Railroad was run by a bunch of Puritans when in fact everyone who ever helped end slavery was a homosexual Atheist working for Communism.

rational thing to do. I even showed them my rational decision tree. They are such religious zealots that they can't understand reason. I am terrified that I will be sent to camp X-ray and tried as a terrorist. Almost everyone is sent there these days. You may say that my Availability Heuristic leads me to make unrepresentative assumptions because I discredit anything that is on Fox News, and believe everything that is in the NY Times editorials,

but if you did say that, you would be an enemy of the Common Good. Ashcroft is after me, and we work from there. I have now given up on teaching the savage un-evolved Americans rationality, and am now trying to explain the Sunk Cost theory. You know the one. Like when you pay for a movie (the sunk cost) then you have to decide whether or not to finish it. It is illogical to factor in the cost of the movie when deciding to stay or do something more fun, because if you watch it all or not, the cost is in both decisions and all outcomes. It is illogical to force yourself to watch the whole thing just because you paid for it, when you could be doing something else more fun. Well even if I did do

something "wrong" (another oppressive social construct) by "stealing" (another irrational religious ownership-society construct) the bus it should not affect their decision of whether or not to take me prisoner, because it is a sunk cost like the price paid for the meal.

I wish they would just keep their laws off my body and stop repeating their Right Wing talking points long enough to think globally. They are SO IRRATIONAL.

Anyhow, I hope you will be fair in allowing me to file an incomplete for your course now that you see my situation. Could you let me do this as an independent study (if you don't it's officially McCarthyism, and I'll be at your faculty review to protest!)

Thanks! (as if there is "free will" and I'm not already entitled to everything)

-David Morganson



FICTION, POETRY, SATIRE, AND OTHER STUFF

AFTER THE END (PART 1)

some curse under his breath, was his insulin. and jerked the wheel to the side,

knew where it came from. Some claimed it was God's retribution, steel mesh over the windshield. others, that it was some laborathe same.

enough to be healthy watched as internal bleeding. In only a few cies to ever call Earth home.

being a survivor in an empty, law-Pretty much everything was free now, and he had amassed a fine

avis gunned the van and collection of all the things he had or shot through the intersec- wanted to have in life when he tion, twitching each time a didn't have enough money to buy bullet ricocheted off the armored them. Then he realized he didn't sides of his vehicle. He muttered need any of it. What he needed

Davis was a diabetic. And sending the van careening down he quickly came to the conclusion a small side alley. With a new that the pharmacy in his town had city, came a new pharmacy, and only so much insulin, and that eventually, he would have to ven-Robert Frost had been ture out to find more. In a matter wrong. There was no fire, no ice. of weeks, he collected a large The cinematic craze over meteors amount of firearms and ammuhad been ill-founded. What finally nition, hoarded gasoline, and did in 99% of the world's popu- armored his van. The one inch lation was a tiny organism, too think steel plates offered excellent small for the eye to see. No one protection to the vehicle, as did the all-terrain tires and lattice work of

Davis traveled the freetory experiment gone horribly ways, stopping in every city of wrong. Either way, it didn't really size, and searching every pharmatter, because the results were macy he could find, all in the hope of finding some insulin. 99% of the Transmitted through the humanity was gone, but that 1% air, the plague quickly spread that was left was made up of some across the globe. Those fortunate tough bastards. Those still alive were predatory, fierce. Men indisall around, people submitted to the criminately killed other men, and disease: it would start with chills captured any women that could be and shivering. The affected would found to be their wives, to 'further soon bleed from sores and begin the human race'. If anything, it coughing up blood. After only a was as if some type of caveman few days, most would die from was operating in the 21st century.

So Davis found himself in months, this tiny organism nearly another city, trying to find another wiped out the most powerful spe- pharmacy. Evading the gangs that invariably cropped up in these Davis was one of the larger cities had become his seclucky ones, if you considered ondary priority, right after finding insulin. He tore down the alley and less world lucky. Davis reflected braced himself as his van crashed that at first, it was kind of neat. through the burned out husk of a

continued on page 15



"Good evening, Brenda."

"Brandon."

"I mean, Brandon."

"Brenda."

Petersen

"Brenda."

"Brandon."

"Brandon."

"No. it's Brenda."

"I meant Brenda."

"Actually it's Brandon."

"Of course, Brandon."

"I'd prefer it if you'd introduce me as Brenda."

men, here is Brenda." "You mean Brandon."

"Yes, Brandon."

"Brenda."

maphrodite? Are you faced with a lot of discrimination?"

whenever I'm going in for the latest job interview, my interportive."

"Speaking of work, what yourself does for a living?"

"Oh, I am an actor."

you specialize in?"

genres."

"Snuff? Can you explain touching me." any further?"

"Oh, sure. They're porno is the issue here!" films where someone gets murdered at the end. They that whole "gigantism" thing get sold to sickos and perverts, was probably just a load of like, you know, ministers, poli-bullshit. I have a feeling that ticians, CEOs, drug addicts, those three guys had medical

ANTEDILUVIAN FUCKAGE: PART 2

cans. etc."

"Murdered? Oh my God!"

"Yeah, it's tough some- tion, anyway." times. Always being bludgeoned to death with your prosthetic arm and all."

"Bludgeoned to death!"

"Yeah. In fact, I remember this one film that I was to a table while I was being gang-raped simultaneously by "Ladies and Gentle- three men with gigantism-" "OH MY GOD! JESUS FUCK-ING CHRIST!"

interrupt me! I haven't even back when we were still "allies." "Bren...so...uh...So what gotten to the sick part yet. In fact, it was that whole affair is it like to be the world's only Anyway, while this was all that made him so hoppin' mad genuine midget amputee her- going on, this lesbo was lick- and now here we are with this ing my face and she had this whole war on terror thing. yellow tongue and it had all this Speaking of that, I also fucked "Oh heavens no! In fact, hair growing out of it and it was Lynne and Dick Cheney at the really, really, really gross."

viewers are always so sup- you ever considered going to don't call him Dick for nothing. the police about this?"

is it that a unique person like I once considered having her phoned me over." license revoked, but there "Snuff, mostly, though I am are supposed to be edgy and looking to branch out into other stuff, but you know, I really don't want something like that

"I don't think that the tongue

"Oh, the guys. Look,

Dahmer wannabes, Republi- "help" in making their dicks so big. Besides, my anus is pretty loose from my other occupa-

"Other occupation?"

"Oh yeah, did I mention it? I also do prostitution on the side."

"Prostitution!"

"Yeah, you'd be surprised. in. They nailed my testicles Lots of rich guys like me to do kinky shit to them. I'm also good for multiple partners." "Multiple partners?"

"Yeah, I once did a threeway with George W. Bush and "SHHH!!! Don't fucking Osama bin Laden, you know, same time too. Lynne was a "What the fuck?!? Haven't cold fish, but let me say, they Woof! I mean, with his wife and "About the tongue? Well, all, I can understand why he

"Oh...God...Well, that's... really wasn't much I could do my station manager...holding "Oh, really? That's fasci- about it. I mean, there isn't up my pink slip, so I think we nating. What kind of films do a law against having a hairy had better wrap up this little yellow tongue and our films interview. Thank you for being on our show, Brenda."

"Brandon.

"Brandon."

"Brenda."

"Brenda."

"Brandon."

"Brandon."

"Brenda."

"Brenda."

"Brandon."

"Brandon."

ALTERNATION CHARLES D. D. D. (CONTINUED

NTEDILUVIAN	FUCKAGE PT.2
"Brenda."	"Brenda."
"Brenda."	"Brandon."
"Brandon."	"Brandon."
"Brandon."	"Brenda."
"Brenda."	"Brenda."
"Brenda."	"Brandon."
"Brandon."	"Brandon."
"Brandon."	"Brenda."
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"Brandon."	"Brenda."
"Brenda."	"Brenda."
"Brenda."	"Brandon."
"Brandon."	"Brandon."
"Brandon."	"Brenda."
"Brenda."	"Brenda."
"Brenda."	"Brandon."
"Brandon."	"Brandon."
"Brandon."	"How about I just call
"Brenda."	you Brendan and we'll call it
"Brenda."	even."
"Brandon."	"Well, I would prefer
"Brandon."	Brenda."
"Brenda."	"Go fuck yourself—
"Brenda."	Brenda."
"Brandon."	"Okay, but I expect the
"Brandon."	cash in advance."
"Brenda."	Casil III advance.
"Brenda."	Is it not strange to watch
"Brandon."	your awful woes float away?
"Brandon."	I consider myself to be a

rather upstanding bloke.

Is it not liberated when we have puffed it up with cluster bom-bombs?

Why are you always dragging politics into this?

Because Marx is the carcass of time.

Makes sense to me.

It is—the soliloguy of love.

Fuck off.

Why are you always repeating yourself?

Fuck off.

"I have just finished my latest novel. It is, if you will allow me to be extraordinarily pretentious, my magnum opus."

"That's wonderful, because I was really looking forward to seeing it."

"It is a whirlwind of neopostmodernist realism, the greatest experiment in the history of literature, an exercise in existential absurdism, all of it topped off with a hint of Zen. It will forever change the way critics define the novel."

"Wow. Does all of this have a title?"

"No, my novel has thus far defied any attempt to slap a label on it."

"I thought you said that you were finished."

"I am finished. But, of course, every true piece of art is a lifelong work-in-progress. For example, Yeats was continuing to rewrite some of his greatest poems years after they had been published.

"Granted, but in order to publish this I will need some type of title. Perhaps I can take a look at it and we can brainstorm something up. for more. They are buying the change it later."

"All right, here you are. Behold! The apple of my eve!"

Jesus Christ, you have written quite a tome."

my imagination and brought my master work to fruition."

your name was Billy Yankel."

can't call yourself Billy Yankel be a collaborative effort." and be respected inside the literary world."

this?"

"Don't you see?"

"I see your name on the first page, but I'm not seeing much else."

"But that is precisely the point. We have fundamentally exhausted the well of literature. There is not a drop left. At first, we had straightforward plots and characters, then the era of experimentation was inaugurated. Fragmented narratives, stream-of-consciousness, internal monologues, backwards narration, nonsensical plots, and so on and so forth. However, now that every avenue of novelty has been depleted, we must conform to the times. Readers have become robots. Take authors like Danielle Steel, Nora Roberts, Dean Koontz, Tom Clancy, and all the rest of the no-talent hacks on the bestseller lists. They recycle the same tired formulas, endlessly, yet the masses continue to come back

consequence."

"Yeah, whatever. Wow, never written a single thing."

"I wrote this. Think of it course." as breaking down the artificial "I present to you, my blood, barrier between author and logical? What the hell is my sweat, my tears, which reader. For too long, people that supposed to mean?" have watered the virgin soil of have used the written word to passively escape into a design intelligent, doesn't it." of someone else's making. "Esteban Ravel? I thought but this novel will encourage things to do." people to participate in the cre-

"That's great and all. I art!" just have one minor question. "What the fuck!? This is all WHO THE FUCK IS GOING just a bunch of blank pages! TO WASTE THEIR MONEY What's so fucking great about BUYING A BUNCH OF BLANK the individual pages. PAGES?"

> "Brenda." "Brenda." "Brandon." "Brandon." "Brenda." "Brenda." "Brandon." "Brandon." "Brenda." "Brenda." "Brandon."

"Brenda." "Brenda."

"Brandon."

"Brandon."

"Brandon."

"How about I just call you Brendan and we'll call it even."

"Have you considered Besides, you can always name, not the plot. I am just targeting academics? They advancing this trend to its final have a lot of money. I can already see the dissertations. "But you have no name "Transcending Epistemologirecognition. In fact, you have cal Structures: The Works of Esteban Ravel as Spatial Dis-

"What? Epistemo-"I don't know, but it sure sounds

"Fuck this, I've got better

"That's just like you soul-"Well, technically, but you ation of their own worlds. It will less corporate hellhounds. All you care about is money, not

> "Art! You call this bullshit art? I'll show you art!" He then proceeded to wipe his ass with

> "You see, this is exactly the type of author-reader symbiosis I was alluding to earlier. Wait a minute! That's genius! Here, give me some pages, this can be a collaborative work. Oh, why didn't I think of such a thing before? It can be a variation upon the theme. After all, the author must be able to share part of himself with the reader. I can see the thesis title before my eyes. "The Defecatory Nature of Implied Textuality in... What should we call it?"

> > "I don't give a shit."

"Yes, that's it! Vulgar, yet clever. "The Defecatory Nature of Implied Textuality in Ravel I and Suisse's I Don't Give A Shit."

"Suisse?"

"Yes, Alejandro Suisse. You can't be respected in the literary world with a name like Larry Rorchard, now can vou?"

You would know more

"Brenda."

ANTEDILUVIAN FUCKAGE PT.2 (CONTINUED

about it than I would."

"So do we have a deal?"

literature is all a bunch of shit. anyway, so what's one more piece of it?"

balls, he would have nuked show that Commie Ronnie was a stool pigeon for the Soviets and if you think that they're gone then I've got news for lager. you, buddy. The Commies just went underground. The fall of child?" the village pedoph...er, Soviet Russia was a front and now they have secret Commies controlling all branches of by my lusting after Michael every government in the world. I'm the only freedom fighter left because all the others child?" have been brainwashed by the Communist indoctrination Pop. system (otherwise known as "public education") but I home- He's quite a hottie." schooled my boy and taught public schools where children gery?" are forced to masturbate and engage in homosexual activi- Weren't you the one overties and are indoctrinated with 'whelmed by your lust for him Islam, paganism, atheism, in the first place? I hardly multiculturalism, and Communism.

The capitalists are controlis up to them to establish the I'm calling you out." discourse that the general every government has been thought... Ha Ha Ha!"

capitalist, even the so-called Communist countries of China "Well, I have always wanted and the Soviet Union, who to be able to say that I wrote a were kept alive by capitalist novel and, let's face it, modern bankers and financiers. The education system is all capitalist, indoctrinating our children with selfish capitalist morals. white paternalist thinking, Ronald Reagan was a Zionism, and patriarchy. That's pussy. If he had a pair of real why I homeschool my child: to protect him from capitalistic those Commie Russian bas- indoctrination from Madison tards for real. Just goes to Avenue and Wall Street. Viva Fidel Castro!

"I need help," said the vil-

"What help do you need, my priest, asked.

"I have been overwhelmed Jackson, Father,"

"Michael Jackson, my

"You know? The King of

"Ah, yes, the King of Pop.

"Do you really think so? him Christianity, unlike these Even after all the plastic sur-

> "More than ever. Ahem. believe that I can be criticized face. for something you are also afflicted by."

"But I'm not afflicted by it. ling our minds through their I just had a suspicion that you corporate media chains. It were in love with him and now

"Well, I was just playing public follows. Everyone of along because I thought you..." our leaders is capitalist and he laughed, "You mean, you priest?"

"Don't fuck with me, priesty. Let's hear the shit straight for once or I'm telling the Pope."

"Well, like I said, there's not anything to tell. I don't lust after Michael Jackson and I think that you are just trying to change the subject from your own fixation. Confession can be a difficult process. Come clean and God will forgive."

"Fuck God! Fuck you! Fuck Michael Jackson!"

"Fuck Michael Jackson! How dare you?!! If I wasn't a man of the cloth, I'd kill you on the spot!"

"Ha, I caught you. Why did you respond to the words 'Fuck Michael Jackson' instead of 'Fuck God' or 'Fuck you'? Huh, priesty! Huh?!?!?" The pedo-priest broke down into

"I admit it. I have had certain...impure thoughts."

"What kind of impure thoughts, my child?"

"It starts with Michael Jackson. He's wearing a tight leather suit that comes up to his pierced nipples and stops just above his penis. His penis is stiff, inviting, hard. I'm laying there, wearing a diaper. I've just taken a shit. Then suddenly he urinates all over my

"Continue, continue. We must describe these thoughts in order to purge them."

"But I don't want to purge them! I just want Michael's cock up my ass!"

"Wait a minute. Why are you pretending to be a

"I'm not pretending to be a

priest. You're the one calling me priesty."

me your child."

"But so did you!"

"Nuh-uh!"

"Uh-huh!"

"Well, fine! But you started

tending to be a Catholic priest. the Middle Ages."

be the anti-Christ?"

board?"

for our best interests."

Austrian."

"Move to Austria?"

mist!"

move to Austria and become an all this fuckin' rap bullshit on whining hippy pieces of fuckin' economist? Why not become MTV. It's fuckin' everywhere! shit! an economist in the good old Undermining our fuckin' Chris-U S of A? We've nuked more tian values. Indoctrinating our ragheads than those krauts fuckin' kids in fuckin' radical 58:32 over there. They've got us Satanic Islam. It was fuckin' beat in one category, though. MTV that fuckin' engineered Hell, they even elected a fuck- the fuckin' 9/11 attacks, along ing Nazi to the head of their with the fuckin' liberals, the government. But when you fuckin' feminists, the fuckin' take it all into account, it's abortionists, the fuckin' gays, clear that the US is best for the fuckin' pagans, the fuckin' rich, white male economists ACLU and the fuckin' People like you. Besides, Europeans for the fuckin' American Way. are all a bunch of commies, I know, because fuckin' Jerry anyway."

"No, I meant the Austrian fact. I like fuckin' Jerry and School of Economics! But you fuckin' Pat so much that I'm You'd fit in pretty well."

"Fuck off."

"Maybe I should become an if I sounded like some fuckin' weenie. Fuckin' trust me. black guy from a fuckin' 70's film there. It's the fuckin' and fuckin' Pat told me. In

"That's because you called do make a good point. Maybe almost fuckin' attracted to you should become one too. them. Don't fuckin' tell them that, though. And I'd just like to say that I am Not fuckin' Gay! You fuckin' hear that, mother-I wanna be a man. I wanna fuckers? NOT FUCKIN' GAY! be a man's man. I wanna NOT FUCKIN' GAY! FUCKIN' "All right. Maybe I am pre- watch football, man. I wanna NOT FUCKIN' FUCKIN' GAY join the fuckin' NRA, man, and YOU FUCKIN' LIBERAL I don't really know why I do it. I be like fuckin' Chuckin' Heston, HIPPIE PONDSCUM PIECES just thought it would be a useful man. (Minus the fuckin' senil- OF MOTHERFUCKING SHIT! way to channel my propensities ity, man.) I wanna kick some FUCK ALL OF YOU FUCKIN' for lying and pedophilia. I was fuckin' ass and break some DIRTBAG HIPPIES WHO hoping I could become a Pope. fuckin' heads. Towelheads, HATE FUCKIN' AMERICA AND Or an anti-Pope. Perhaps split preferably, though kicking LOVE FUCKIN' SADDAM! the Church like it did back in some fuckin' hippy ass would FUCKIN' FUCK ALL OF YOU! do nicely. I hate fuckin' hip- FUCKIN' BITCHES! FUCK "So you basically want to pies. They're fuckin' scumbag YOU FUCKIN' NOW BITCHES! pieces of shit who deserve to FUCKIN' LESBOS! FUCKIN' "I thought the Pope was be fuckin' exterminated. That's WHORES! I'M NOT A FUCKIN' the anti-Christ! At least that's why I need to pay my fuckin' GAY BOY! FUCKIN'!!!!!!!!! I'm what some billboard said. And NRA dues. I just like, don't just fuckin' saying that I'd defiwho am I to argue with a bill- want to risk my fuckin' life in nitely fuckin' engage in threeany of this shit, man. I'll leave way fuckin' fuckage with fuckin' "It is true. We should not that fuckin' shit to the fuckin' Jerry and fuckin' Pat if I had the argue with billboards for corpo- guys on fuckin' television. fuckin' chance. Even though rations are always looking out Like fuckin' Toby Keith. He's fuckin' Pat has wrinkled fuckin' a badass muthafucka. Sorry testicles and a teeny fuckin'

Send your fuckin' com-"No, an Austrian econo- TV. Oh, did I fuckin' men- plaints to Idontfuckingiveafuck tion the whole fuckin' anti- @fuckinfuckoff.org, you fuckin' "You mean that you want to white male conspiracy? It's yelping fuckin' PC feminazi

Date: Thu 22 Nov 2003 09:

From: fuckyouwhoreassbitch @bitemvass.com

To: Idontfuckingiveafuck@f uckinfuckoff.org

Subject: Fuck off

> Fuck off.





THE LIFE PLATONIC NSTALLMENT

through him, and again the old awe steals over him: then looking upon the face of his beloved as of a god he reverences him. and if he were not afraid of being thought a downright madman, ◄ he would sacrifice to his beloved as to the image of a god; then while he gazes on him there is a sort of reaction, and the shudder passes into an unusual heat and perspiration." (Plato, on physical manifestations of Love; Phaedrus 1937 tr. B Jowett)

About 2,380 years ago there was a man named Plato, a Greek man, quite stoic if the paintings are to be believed. He was a philosopher what thought hard about thought, what considered long sundry considerations, and what pondered deep myriad ponderances.

No, 'ponderances' is not a word, and yes the sentence as a whole may be awkwardly read. But here, in lieu of some seamless more readable introduction I wish the reader to prepare for what might (but I daresay, shouldn't) be a diatribe. The language and demeanor are intended for some modicum of contemplation, and especially to provide an extra or unusual substance conducive to exploring the subject-matter (revealed just below). Where semiotics may at points fail my audience, or perhaps worse altogether confuse them, I pray that the ultimate gesture of this tale becomes worth your time and effort, that the anachronistic use of punctuation and syntax

immediacy it is that surrounds and, it can be argued, prevents your adventures in thought. Too, honesty compels me to confess, this is an experiment in both both parties has been acknowlescapism and reflection for the author, whose Div III is altogether lacking in the former, and has thus far afforded little measure towards Herein lies a greater potential for

articles exploring the concept of 'Platonic' Love, the goal being a careful comparison between the Love described by Plato in his writings (principally, the Symposium) and those types of relationships that, in our modern experience, might be referred to as 'Platonic'. Quotes from several of Plato's writings will be used and/or discussed, as will those of seemingly credible analyses provided by the Internet. The bulk of the discussion will rely on musings from mine own personal experience, and seek to develop compelling attitudes towards 'Platonic' Love. along with what today might be its appropriate usage.

The word 'Platonic' will here describe one of two things (others may wish to add more definitions*):

1. An actual asexual kinship between two (or more) people where sexual tension might otherwise exist. More importantly this implies a lack of influence by the libido (sexual drive and energies derived from it) on the kinship, thus allowing its members to seek fulfillment without subtexts, pretenses, or similar unspoken tensions arising from physical

"At first a shudder runs takes you, briefly, from whatever attraction. This is, one might say, the pure modern usage of the word 'Platonic'.

> 2. A kinship where sexual attraction on the part of one or edged in extended conversation, and by mutual consent determined to remain in some inactive form. peril - most probably as a result This is the first in a series of of one participant's growing desire to engage in physical intimacy, or else due to the sudden upwelling of repressed libido between both parties.

These definitions are, I should make clear, modern applications of the word 'Platonic' as derived from personal reflection and popular use. They are intended to be considerate and carefully worded, enough so to provide a framework within which I might discuss the subject-matter more thoroughly. However, they are unlikely to be static and are by no means comprehensive.

"He [Love] is a great spirit (daimon), and like all spirits he is intermediate between the divine and the mortal." "And what," [Socrates] said, "is his power?" "He interprets," [Diotama] replied, "between gods and men, conveying and taking across to the gods the prayers and sacrifices of men, and to men the commands and replies of the gods; he is the mediator who spans the chasm which divides them, and therefore in him all is bound together, and through him the arts of the prophet and the priest, their sacrifices and mysteries and charms, and all, prophecy and incantation, find their way. For through Love . . . "

"...[L]ove is of the everlasting possession of the good, all men will necessarily desire immortality together with good: Wherefore love is of immortality" (Plato, Symposium tr. B. Jowett).

Plato's discourse on Love. as presented in his Symposium c. 360 B.C., describes a journey from the specific and sensuous (fucking one body for yourself and one other) to the general and genetic (sublimating timeless Human aspirations for all to see). The act of Love itself is described as being 'of' something, the way a father is the father 'of' a son, or a brother that 'of' a brother. Here Love is 'of the everlasting possession of the good' (tr. B. Jowett), where the immortal aspirations

likewise 'of" Love. As I understand it Love is the pinnacle of these abstract - yet wholly tangible, for they can be attained and truly felt - ideals, and is discovered through the approximation of 'Good' and 'Beauty' via increasingly refined routes: first through forms (bodies), second through institutions and laws, and finally through sciences and philosophy This incremental progression towards 'wisdom' (here encompassing those concepts that when sublimated beyond their Earthen expression become Love) is in many ways a surprisingly rational approach to find Love, to experience that part of Life. The Universe, and Everything, greater than which there is nothing

This is very terse introduction

God mingles not with man; but named 'Good' and 'Beauty' are to Plato's writings, but I hope it at least gets your gears running. Any disagreements, guestions, concerns with the content of this installment of 'The Life Platonic', *please e-mail me: afb01@hampshire.edu. Next issue I will formally delve into the semantics of 'Platonic' Love in our day, the role of libido in our search for Love, and how its influence may fluctuate with age or in response to other factors affecting stability. For those of you so inclined, translations of the Symposium can be found easily enough on-line (Google. . .), as can a number of analyses, criticisms, and explanations. I hope this serial proves to be an insightful tangent for those

readers who follow it, as well as myself.



continued from page 8

AFTER THE FALL

of wrecked and burnt buildings crowded around the street, the hazardous driving experience.

"God damn gangs. Shoot at anyone they don't recognize," Davis muttered. This was not an all together new experience for Davis, but he still didn't appreciate it. Glancing ahead, he saw that his way was blocked by a wall of rubble.

He screeched to a halt and swung the van aside 90 degrees. He grabbed a shotgun and slid open the side door to the van. A man appeared in a second story window and fired a handgun in Davis's direction. A shot flickered off the pavement in front of appeared, these in an armored Davis, and he returned fire with his shotgun, the blast roaring in the confines of his van. He pumped way to T-bone his van. Davis took

station-wagon. The remains another cartridge into the shotgun, and let lose with another blast, this time catching the man square in rubble and rubbish creating a the chest, knocking him down out of sight.

> Another man appeared on a motorcycle, and before he could reach the rifle slung across his back. Davis had pumped a blast out of his shotgun. It caught the man in the side, peppering his left leg and arm. The man fell to the ground, screaming. Davis grabbed a Molotov cocktail, lighted the wick, and tossed it at the man on the ground. The area burst into flames, and Davis could make out the man writhing on the ground.

Another group of men it was just the beginning car, much like Davis's van. The car bore down on him, making

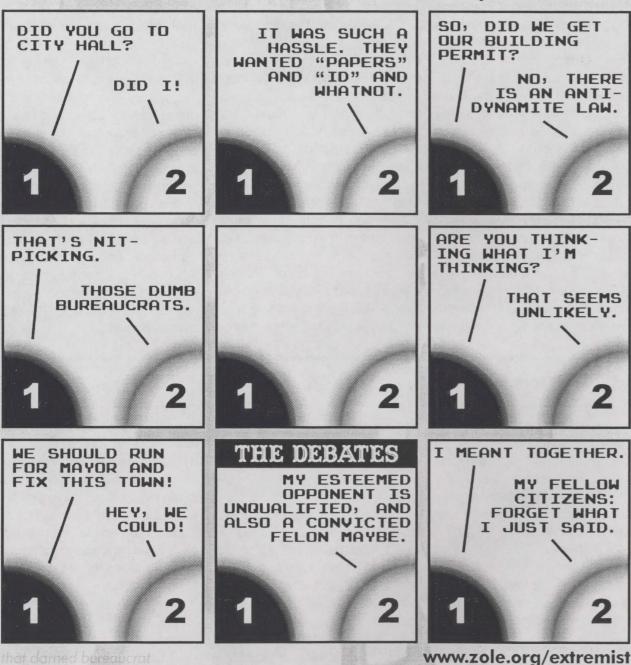
careful aim with his shotgun, and watched as the windshield on the driver's side erupted in cracks. The car accelerated and swung to the left, to crash into a building at a considerable speed. The car buckled under the impact, and the building shuddered, dropping more rubble on top of the vehicle. No one got out.

Davis took a step back into his van and waited a few seconds to see if anymore would come. None did, and he closed the sliding door and sat back down into the driver's seat. He took a few deep breaths and closed his eyes. This time was the end for many, but for Davis,

> To Be Continued....

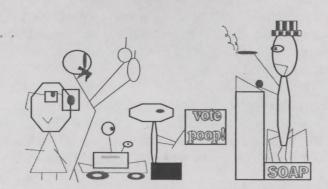


ONE and **TWO** | Death To The Extremist run for MAYOR | CCLXXXVII by M. Zole



THE ARTICLE GOBLINS....

VOTE FOR MAYOR!!!!



OMEN OH MY

Dakin game of assassin being organized for later this spring. This is assassin assassin assassin pretty cool. Assassin is an awesome game. If you're not assassin assassin paris with kids, paris with

familiar, it's a game where o everyone involved gets the name of someone else and you have to try and assassinate them, essentially. The specifics are variable and I don't know what this game is going to be specifically, but the point is, it's _ cool. So yes, this is good.

Recently, however, someone took offense. I have no idea, how, or why, but all the posters have been changed to Wassassin because of this. That's right, we will not be playing assassin, we will be playing wassassin. Isn't being PC won- note, Paris Hilton continues derful? So, if you're offended by the word assassin, I would like you to read the following statement I have prepared:

Dear whoever you are:

I understand that this is a sensitive issue for you. I don't know why, but apparently it is. In light of this fact, I would like to offer apologies on behalf of the entire campus and I would just like to say assassin assassin

assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin

In conclusion, we need to stop wasting money fighting middle eastern terrorists, when it's obvious that the real enemy is the sun.

assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin assassin Best wishes.

me.

to amuse me. If you haven't data and some recorded calls heard, she got Jewed (oh my have I offended anyone?). As yeah, check that out. background, she has a Sidekick, one of those off phone hybrid things, provided by the to stop wasting money fightgood people at T-Mobile. Now, ing middle eastern terrorists, rather than keep information when it's obvious that the real on the device, T-Mobile keeps the data on their centralized servers, which was a bit of a problem when they got hacked. Actually, they got hacked a couple times, by the same and I can't possibly know that guy. He got in, and T-Mobile the sun is the real enemy, I will knew, and kicked him out, and say that then he got back in again. At some point, he downloaded all of Paris Hilton's data and DONE IT. posted it all on the internet. This included various pictures, assassin assassin her notebook, and her address lives.

o there's a Merrill/ assassin assassin assassin book, with the phone numbers of a whole lot of her fellow bad celebrities. The pictures are amusing. They fall into a few catagories: paris being vain,

> cute animals, and paris naked and making out with her friend. The notebook has some interesting bits, including the to do list of

> > Call maroon 5 Get birth control kill

The real beauty is, howassassin assassin ever, her address book. In the wake of it becoming available. a flurry of prank calling began. It's all rather good, and you should go check it out. There's On a completely unrelated a lot of it available, I'm sure. http://paris.elite.to/ has all the at the time of writing this. So

> In conclusion, we need enemy is the sun. I know this because I have been to the future. You can't argue with the future. Before you claim that time travel is impossible

YES YOU CAN. I HAVE

carry on with your



Sigfried the Male					DUN	GE	ON	Ç	
HARACTER NAME Fighter 3	PLAYE		aotic Stupid	Hextor		CG	W IC	.0	-
LASS AND LEVEL	RACE			DEITY	DKA	UC	NIS	-	
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ABILITY ABILITY TEMPOR	RARY TEM PORARY	TOTAL WO	UND S/CURRENT HP		LETHAL MACE		SPE	ED	
STR 17 +3	HP HIT POINTS	30	one of connection to			3	0 ft./	round	d
DEX 15 +2	AC AC	19 = 10+	7 +	1+2+++	7+	7+[DAMAGER	
CON 14 +2	ARM OR CLASS	TOTAL	ARMOR SHIELD BONUS BONUS	DEX SIZE NATUR	AL DEFLECTI R MODIFIE	ON I	MISC ODIFIER		
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	INITIAT	IVE 6	2 + 4	5					
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SAVING THROWS TOTAL	BASE ABILITY MAGIC M SAVE MODIFIER MODIFIER MO	DIFIER MODIFIER	CONDITIONAL MODIFIERS	□ BLUFF ■	CHA		=	+	+
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				□ CRAFT ■ (□ DECIPHER SCRIPT) INT		=	+	+
BASE ATTACK BON	IUS +3	SPELL		□ DIPLOMACY ■	CHA		=	+	+
		RESISTANCE		DISABLE DEVICE	INT		=	+	+
GRAPPLE	3 - 3 + 3	1		☐ DISGUISE ■	СНА		=	+	_+
MODIFIER TOT	DAGE PATTICK CARRIES	TH SIZE IER MODIFIER	MISC MODIFIER	☐ ESCAPE ARTIST ■	DEX	\vdash	=	+	_+
101	IAL BONUS MODIF	IER MODIFIER	MODIFIER	☐ FORGERY ■ ☐ GATHER IN FORMATION ■	INT	H	=	+	+
ATTACK	ATTACK BONING	DIMICE	CDITICAL	MANDLE ANIMAL	CHA		=	+	+
	+6/+6	DAMAGE 1d8+5/1d8+	CRITICAL	☐ HEAL ■	WIS		=	+	+
Dire Flail +2 Undeadbane			5 X2	☐ HIDE ■	DEX		=	+	+
RANGE TYPE	NOT		agen to undoge	MINTIMIDATE ■	CHA	1	= 1	+ 6	+
5 ft. Bludgeoning+2 on Di	sarm checks, +2 to hit	and +200 dan	lage to taldead	∑ JUMP ■ Knowledge (STR*		=	+	+
AMMUNITION		00 00000 000	. 00000 000	KNOWLEDGE (_) INT		=	+	+
ATTACK	ATTAGE BOANIE	DANAGE	CONTIGAL	KNOWLEDGE (_) INT		=	+	+
	ATTACK BONUS	DAMAGE	10.20 V2	☐ KNOWLEDGE () INT		=	+	+
Longsword +1	+7 (+5 with axe)		19-20 X2	☐ KNOWLEDGE () INT		=	+	+
RANGE TYPE	NOT			☐ LISTEN ■ ☐ MOVE SILENTLY■	DEX#		=	+	+
5 ft. Slashing	Glows red v	vhen draw	n	OPEN LOCK	DEX		=	+	+
AMMUNITION		00 000000 000	. 00000 000	PERFORM (_) CHA		=	+	+
ATTACK				PERFORM (_) CHA		=	+	+
ATTACK	ATTACK BONUS	DAMAGE	CRITICAL	PERFORM () CHA		=	+	+
Handaxe	+6 (+4 with sword)	1d6+3	X3	PROFESSION (_) WIS	-	=	+	+
RANGE TYPE	NOT	ES		☐ PROFESSION (DEX DEX	8	= 2	+ 6	+
5 ft. Slashing	Security 12 Land	1 - 1		SEARCH ■	INT	-	=	+	+
AMMUNITION		00 00000 000	000 000000 .	☐ SENSE MOTIVE ■	WIS		=	+	+
				SLEIGHT OF HAND	DEX		=	+	+
ATTACK	ATTACK BONUS	DAMAGE .	CRITICAL	☐ SPELLCRAFT	INT		=	+	+
Javelin +3	+8	1d6+3	X2	□ Spot ■	WIS	H	=	+	+
RANGE TYPE	NOT	ES		SURVIVAL X SWIM	WIS STR*		_	+	+
30 ft. Piercing	Consumed aft	er one us	e	TUMBLE	DEX		=	+	+
AMMUNITION Only 3 left!				USE MAGIC DEVICE	CHA		=	+	+
IMMONITION			. تالنسان ت	☐ USE ROPE ■	DEX		=	+	+
ATTACK	ATTACK BOINUS	DAMAGE	CRITICAL	0			=	+	+
ALIASK	+5	1d10	19-20 X2			-	=	+	+
	+3						=	+	+
Heavy Crossobw		ES							
Heavy Crossobw	NOT	ES		■ Denotes a skill that can be used unto Mark this box with an X if the skill i		the chara	rtor		

Any!						FEATS	SPELLS
CAMPAIGN						Proficiency: All Armor.	DOMAINS/SPECIALTY SCHOOL:
						Sheilds; Martial Weapon	0:
EXPERIENCE POINT	rs.					Exotic Weapon Proficience	y:
		GE	AR			Dire Flail	
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Chainmail +	2	Med	ium +	7	+2	Improved Initiative Iron Will	
CHECK PENALTY SPE		_	WEIGHT	SPECIAL PR		Dodge	
-5	30%	30 II.	40 lbs.	speed rea		Dodge	2ND:
SHIELD/PROTEC	TIVE ITE	AC BOI	NUS WEIGH	IT CHEC	CK PENALTY		
SPELL FAILURE	_	SP	ECIAL PROPERT	ES	_		JRD:
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		МО	NEY			Common	5TH
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sp- 12							7TH
cr- 20							8TH
PF —							OTH OTH
						ission granted to photocopy for personal use only.	

19



THE CONTROL PANEL

elcome friends to the Omen's second edition of 'The Control Panel'. For those LR: I guess so... of you unfamiliar with this semi-traditional column, here's the deal. The editor-in-chief and SS: I'm cool with that, interested staff gather:

1.) a small group of students

2.) a tape recorder

3.) ~20 minutes of spare time

4.) a topic

ent begin waxing philosophic until time runs out. Topics generally

cracy, etc, however this is not a binding rule. If let us know.

be published in two parts, as it ran on quite a bit longer than anticipated. Look for the thrilling conclusion in the next edition of The Omen. ****

The evenings participants: Jason Bertone Shalin Scupham Kyle Strimbeck Libby Reinish Andy Valaine

SS: We can start, we're centering on veganism, so uh, I guess whoever wants to make prolific statements....

KS: so who here's a vegan?

JB: I am.

AV: I am.

LR: You three [Kyle, Jason, and Andy] are?

SS: So I guess we're, uh, the savages?

LR: Well, I'm curious to hear people's reasons for being vegan, and how long you've been vegan for.

AV: Okay, I've been vegan for a little over a year, After gathering such requisite materials, those pres- and vegetarian for about three and a half years. When I initially became vegetarian, I wanted to make, ideally, a jump to veganism, but I ran into revolve around Hampshire current events, bureau- some obstacles with everything from how meals that were served in my house, so I started to have to you are interested in participating in 'The Control make more of my own meals, and how hard it was Panel', please e-mail awo03@hampshire.edu and to drop milk and cheese, because I was a gallon of milk a day drinker which is kind of outrageous but true, but, so what I did was I decided "Okay I'm This week: Hampshire and the Morality of Vegan-going to do it in a transitional model, so I became a vegetarian and I settled into it for a couple of years, and um, basically it took me a really long time to stop, **** For good or ill this Control Panel discussion will I mean, basically milk was the one thing, it took me awhile to stop, because I tried soy milk, and a lot of the flavors I was like "this doesn't measure up" and whatnot. I had the idea to become fully vegan from the start but I was, I guess, handicapped in my ability to make the full transformation due to my milk addiction, until a little over a year ago when I decided okay, enough is enough, I'm committed to doing this and milk isn't all that important to me, and vanilla soy milk is actually pretty good and I substituted that in, it was the last step I had to make. I guess the main reasons for why I mainly envisioned making the switch, I mean you have the vegetarian argument, and there's the vegan argument so I'll try to lump them together. I mean veganism is strict vegetarianism, but for just not eating meat you can make the argument that there are animals that have similar nervous systems, endocrine systems to human beings, they feel anxiety, they have a sense of anxiety, they feel pain, and it's not necessarily a moral decision to have an ownership or dominion, or to exact your will over another animal, because if they are cognizant, if they are mentally aware, then that's not, I mean who's to say that slavery is only amoral if it's human to human? And if you look at,

I mean there are forms of shallow ecology which I love animals. I don't think it's fair to... basically a lot you start to equate more animal species, like if you stop separating humans from other animals, you start to see the morality in the treatment of animals. The veganism argument, which takes vegetarianism vegan you have the first two and the last two letnot killing animals, which is the ultimate exacting you, then I am going to kill you for my own means. ucts, which usually most industries that are geared dairy, or whether it be clothing or whether it be, you know, products that are tested on animals, there's the animals are...

this has to be transcribed, so let's let somebody else...

AV: Right, sorry

SS: so Kyle, how about you? Why are you a

brains and we have brains too, so we shouldn't eat things that have brains or are made from brains.

SS: what if the brain's very small?

KS: no, it's not a matter of what size it is, 'cause what matters is how many wrinkles there are in the brain for how smart you are.

SS: What if it's a bumblebee?

wrinkles.

SS: what about you?

JB: Um, I became vegan, also because of animals,

have humans as the central being of the earth, but of what Andy said I agree with fully. Another reason if you look at deep ecology it's just that humans that nobody has mentioned yet is just the environare in no way the supreme force of the earth and mental impacts of farming and raising animals for we are subject to things like die-off. Some of the human consumption. It takes, I don't want the get whims of nature, we are not totally above that, so if into all the details about it, but it takes its hold on our planet, raising animals just for human consumption, I don't think it's terribly -- just because of the way I lived when I ate meat, and when I became vegetarian about a year and a half ago, I've been vegan for to it's logical end, you know the origin of the word four months. Just the way I used to eat, when I ate meat was just - It completely wasn't healthy. Even ters of vegetarian. . . first two, last three, rather. . . I when I was vegetarian, I found I was substituting mean first three, last two, sorry, you have not only meat for a lot of other animal products, like stuff that were heavy egg and cheese content... and other of one's will over another, like I am going to own dairy products. I ended up switching to veganism just because I didn't want to support industries, like, you also have not having any animal-derived prod- I didn't want to support the dairy industry, I didn't want to support the meat industries, I just didn't towards producing animals products, whether it be want the be part of this because I don't think it's healthy for people to be – I'm, I, I don't know how everybody else feels about this, I try not to judge a form of institutionalized cruelty with that wherein people for eating meat or dairy products. I try not to take the angle where I feel better than everyone else because I'm not taking part of it, because I'm SS: We only have really twenty minutes because not. I just don't think it's healthy, I think people would be a lot happier and healthier if they, even if they ate less meat and less animal products. I feel like eating meat and dairy every single meal, it can't be good for you.

AV: Just a quick extension on something you said, you talked about the environmental effect. Secondary nutrient consumption, which is what happens KS: um. I think, brains. Just because animals have when one consumes meat, because the meat product, what it once was, say a cow, whatever, a pig, is a primary consumer, it consumes grain, it corn, whatever it may be. If you eat the meat, it's a secondary consumption of those nutrients, so it's actually less efficient. It's a ten to one ratio in terms of livestock, say ten Kg of grain for one Kg of meat, that's the actual ratio. It's wasteful in terms of the raw material that could be made available immediately for food.

KS: it's a big problem with flatness, too because you KS: That... the bumblebee brain has a lot of need flat earth in order to grow grains, and there's not a whole lot of flat earth left, from feeding the

SS: How about you, Libby? What...

LR: Well, my eat -- I guess I should describe my eating habits, I've been a meat eater pretty much my etarianism for the past semester or so. I did it actually wanted to see if I could do it because I was so reliant, I used to eat a lot of meat. And, um, I was like, "Well, let's see if I can go a week without eating meat" and needed, and every couple of weeks every month or with it then it's alright. so, I would get really sick. I was having like, trembling problems, and just like really – and like energy LR: That sort of brings up an interesting issue that problems, and I haven't really found a good balance I wanted to talk about because for me, I guess a yet, as far as what I eat.

products or any of that, it's important to be conscious much and issue of killing animals is wrong, it's sort of what you're putting in your body. Like you need of, you know the quality of life of the animal is a lot to be aware of what you're eating, always, and that more important to me than whether or not they're was one of the things that drew me to veganism in general cause when I was more aware of what I was putting in my body, I just found that, well when and more sustainable methods of producing animal you're looking at what you're eating critically, like it's products for consumption, and why you guys don't hard to be just like a lazy vegan who eat whatever the vegan option is and doesn't really think about products for consumption. it. Once I started calculating out what I was eating and making sure I was getting everything I needed KS: Personally I don't see, I just take issue with to stay healthy, I found that energy wasn't a problem. It was when I was vegetarian. When I switched to veganism when I really started to focus on what I was putting into my body. I think you should whether it leaves like bits of metal in their bodies and they you're a meat-eater or not a meat-eater.

LR: I actually do, people think it's weird, but I actually do write down everything that I eat and I, there's a. there's a - and I calculate what the nutritional content of what I eat is just sort of because I'm really ally find that it's really difficult and we just need to interested in nutrition and seeing what sort of effect stay aware of the environment. things have on my body, but I think because I'm such to do it right. Um, but... yeah well Shalin.

animal flesh. It's just something that I enjoy. Basically if I go too long without getting enough protein I realize that there are non-animal protein sources, but I just find I get really sick, I tried being vegetarian

being prepared and I'm not eating very much and just basically being weak and sleep about three hours a whole life, I've been sort of experimenting with veg- day more and puking twice a week and I tried it for a month and it didn't guite work. Umm and then I at first as an experiment in willpower because I just went to this place called Deep Springs which was one of the colleges that I applied to, and I actually saw a cow being slaughtered and they also produce their own milk - a cup a person a day -- and it gave I did and it really wasn't hard at all, which surprised me insight into the whole production process, and I me. So I did, and I just kept not eating meat. I think still eat meat after viewing that and I feel like as long I was having trouble getting all the nutrients that I as you can confront the truth about what's going on

big reason behind my motivation for wanting to be vegetarian and maybe in the future vegan is you JB: I find whether you eat meat, or you don't or dairy know these environmental issues. It's not quite so actually killed for consumption in the end. Um, so I guess I wanted to talk a little bit about local farming see just choosing carefully your sources of animal

> eating things that eat other things. Because with our environment being the way it is today, when animals eat food it get processed in such a way that pass, I don't know if you all heard about this, I read it in Discovery magazine, but they pass magnets through cows now in order to get rid of all the metal that they eat because they just eat so much metal just lying around everywhere. It's just like. I person-

a busy person that even though I'm conscious of AV: Yeah I mean I live by a general uh I guess I don't what I'm putting into my body I don't have the time want to call it a philosophy but a maxim I suppose that beings should not be treated as a either a commodity or a property meaning that no one should SS: I eat meat pretty shamelessly, I like the taste of have caged animals that produce dairy products such as chickens and no one should have ownership over an animal like a commodity, and if you look at the way the meat industry is run, um, a lot of people if we weren't in such a commodity economy for a while and I did, occasionally get tofu and stuff would see the problems with meat consumption, but but there was, I had problems with the way it was I think a lot of people defend it more because of the fact that it's a lucrative business operation and that often time blinds people, those in control anyways, AV: Again, I wouldn't because I have no desire to. from seeing the ills of it.

SS: Well, I don't -- I pay money for it because it's delicious

AV: yeah you not personally, but someone in charge works in the ...

SS: canning industry.

AV: Well, I mean I try not to... I don't overindulge

AV: I meant that is better, the problem with free range is the definition can mean anything from as great as they get to roam to as horrible as they can spread a lot of accountability for those that adopt the definibe redefined.

LR: okay, semantics aside, would you have a probreally want to get down to it. lem with eating eggs from chickens that could like cages, and there's also a problem with like killing they don't eat them, but all that stuff aside like if fetal eggs? chickens were just allowed to go about being chickens would you have a problem with eating eggs?

frame now, I don't require eggs, I don't desire eggs, and I personally wouldn't consume them. I would would see things this way, but the kind of ownership in. That's kinda disturbing. over animals and the limitation of their autonomy, I mean keeping the chicken, yes they're free range, KS: What if it was fetal tree? but keeping them in a certain area that they're confined to, and having them produce eggs on some LR: Like what do you mean? Like a seed? No I kind of schedule that wouldn't happen naturally, I mean, I.. do you have a problem eating seeds? still would have a problem with that.

LR: Take it further. Say you found some eggs in the brains. To Be Continued. woods. I mean...

LR: Yeah but like, philosophically.

AV: Yah, I guess that's just not sustainable so it couldn't be like a market commodity.

of the production or something. Like someone that SS: This might be too personal, but what are the vegans' position on abortion?

AV: Ok I'll go first. I'm radically, I mean not radically, but I'm very pro-choice, and my position on that and the way I see it is, that until the fetus can possibly live on it's own, it is not a separate being and it is dependent on the mother and until that is no longer LR: what about free-range eggs from the farm next the case it is not a separate being and it is not cruelty to end that being's life and I think I put more, I definitely put more uh importance on the well- the ultimate well-being of the child and the mother than a fetus which although may be developed in some way it certainly is not capable of independently living, their wings in a cage and the definition doesn't leave it is wholly dependent on the mother at most points during its development and if the abortion is comtion because it is so broad and I think that needs to pleted during those points you are not really killing something you are ending a symbiotic relationship between, actually It's a parasitic relationship if you

wander around their area freely, that were never in KS: Honestly I think that I don't know I've always had some issues with the idea of fetuses and I don't roosters because you know they don't lay eggs and know about y'all, but would you be willing to eat

SS: Yeah because like unfertilized chicken eggs...

AV: I personally would because I'm set in my diet KS: You were talking about finding eggs in the woods, would you be willing to eat tree eggs?

be more okay with such a practice, but there still is LR: Well, eating like Robin eggs doesn't sound too in that still life, the problem of having own -- I mean appealing, you know, but I think I wouldn't want to eat this is an extreme view I don't think a lot of people anything I could see something like a fetus growing

KS: No, they're plants. They don't have



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